

FAMILY HISTORY

ANCESTORS
OF
RUSSELL SNOW HITCHCOCK

1620-1947

BLISS ANCESTRY

WILLIAM BLISS

WILLIAM BLISS #278, son of RICHARD BLISS #279 and grandson of RICHARD BLISS #280, both of Daventry, Northampton County, England, was born there between 1530 and 1535. Daventry is 72 miles from London and in that vicinity the ancestors of the Bliss emigrants to America had lived for 150 years and in that County for 279 years. There are no birth records of these Richard Bliss's, but such evidence as is available indicates the birth of the senior one about 1460-65 and the other one about 1500. Their wives are not known.

William Bliss was a blacksmith as were most of his sons and grand sons. The only records available of him are his second marriage, the baptisms and burials of three of eight children, his will and his own burial. From these it appears he first married about 1550 and his first wife died before September 1561. He married ELIZABETH #281, his second wife on 20 September 1561.

He was a member of "The Companye of the Shoemakers, Tanners, Whittawars, Glovers and Smithes" which was one of the two tradesmen's guilds which controlled the borough business affairs. He owned a forge in the nearby town of Staverton in addition to his forge at Daventry. His will was dated 19 July 1574 and he was buried the next day. His will mentioned his wife and living children as well as those to whom he owed money. His wife Elizabeth was buried in September 1596. By his first wife William Bliss had four or five children of whom one was WILLIAM #282. By his second wife there were the remainder of his eight children of whom one was JOHN #289.

WILLIAM BLISS

WILLIAM BLISS #282, son of William Bliss was born at Daventry, Northampton County, England about 1556-58 and inherited from his father all his tools and forge at Daventry. He married between the death of his father in 1574 and 1580 when a son was born. The name of his wife is not known and the baptism of only one son William was recorded.

THOMAS BLISS

THOMAS BLISS #283, was probably the son of William Bliss although neither his birth or baptism have been recorded. His birth was between 1582 and 1586. At Daventry he married DOROTHY WHEATLIE #284 on 22 November 1614 and Thomas Mariott, the minister, performed the ceremony. She was the daughter of JOHN WHEATLIE #285, who was the master warden of the "Company of Mercers, Woollendrapers, Taylors, Innkeepers and Fullers" as well as bailiff. There were several references in the company records to Wheatlie and Bliss. Thomas Bliss owned no land and was not so taxed although his father-in-law was taxed for land he owned.

Thomas and Dorothy Bliss had seven children whose baptisms were recorded at the church of Holy Cross of the Established Church of England. Of these only four were named in the father's will at Rehoboth

CLARK ANCESTRY

DANIEL CLARK

DANIEL CLARK #249 was born at Chester, England about 1622 and died at Windsor, Connecticut on 12 August 1710 in his 88th year. On 13 June 1644 he married MARY NEWBERRY #254, who was baptized on 22 October 1626, in Whitchurch Canonieorum County, Dorset, England and died at Windsor, Connecticut, 29 August 1688. See #252 for her descent from Thomas Newberry. Daniel Clark's second wife was Martha(Pitkin)Wolcott widow of Simon Wolcott. Daniel Clark came to America with his uncle the Reverend Ephraim Huet. He visited England during his residence here. He was tax assessor in 1654 and on the second Windsor tax list was listed as having "Family, horse, and two oxen". He was one of the 19 signers and grantees of the charter of Connecticut. In 1662 he was granted 400 acres of land with John Mason. He was recorded in 1640 as a first settler of Windsor. It is possible that Daniel Clark was one of the Clark family of Chester, England who were descended from King Edward I and Queen Eleanor. He was well educated and served as Colonial Secretary 1658-1664, and 1666; Deputy to the General Court 1657-1661 and was appointed a Captain in a cavalry troop in 1664. Daniel and Mary Clark had ten children. His will was dated 31 August 1709 and the inventory of the estate presented 8 September 1710.

JOHN CLARK

JOHN CLARK #250, son of Daniel and Mary Clark was born at Windsor, Connecticut on 10 April 1656 and died in September 1715. In 1685 he married MARY CROW #259, who was born on October 1665. See #255 for her descent from Christopher Crow. On 24 December 1686 John Clark was admitted as an inhabitant of Simsbury, Connecticut, and moved there from Windsor. Later he returned to Windsor. John Clark left no will. The inventory of his estate was taken in 1715 and on 3 January 1715-6 his widow was appointed executrix. MARY #251, daughter of John and Mary Clark married SAMUEL COOLEY #243 on 24 October 1711. Mary Clark Cooley married in 1720 for her second husband William Randall and she died in Springfield, Massachusetts on 3 July 1781.

Sources: The Cooley Genealogy by M.E.Cooley, 1941.
The Clark Genealogy by E.L.Walton, 1913.
Records of Windsor, Conn., in New England Historical and Genealogical Register, vol.5,p65,p365.
Digest of Hartford Probate District by C.W.Manwaring, vol.1,p425;vol.2,p177,p370.

at Springfield on 12 April 1679. John Graves second wife was Mary (Bronson) Wyatt widow of John Wyatt who he married probably on 20 July 1671. They had one child.

Sources: Graves Genealogy from Thomas Graves of Hatfield by Cemont Graves, 1911.

History of Deerfield, Mass., by George Sheldon.

Genealogy of the Graves Family in America by J.C.Graves 1896.

SMITH ANCESTRY

SAMUEL SMITH

LIEUT. SAMUEL SMITH #50 was born in England about 1602, and died in America about 1680. In England he married ELIZABETH #51, who was born about 1602 and died on 16 March 1686. They sailed from Ipswich, England in the ship Elizabeth on 30 April 1634, with four children, settled a bit later at Wethersfield, Connecticut and were in Hadley, Massachusetts in 1659. Lieut. Samuel Smith was one of the 59 men who on 18 April 1659 at Hartford, Connecticut signed an agreement to move and settle Hadley. WILLIAM GULL #316, NATHANIEL DICKINSON #127, and THOMAS GRAVES #45 were also in this group while JOSEPH BALDWIN #120 moved to Hadley shortly afterwards. Information in this book as to the settling of Hadley is under all the foregoing names.

Lieut. Samuel Smith was a man of considerable influence at Hadley and was townsman, afterward called selectman, in 1660, 1668 and on four additional occasions. On 31 December 1660 he was chosen town measurer. He was present at the first recorded town meeting held 8 October 1660 at the house of Andrew Warner. He was one of a new committee chosen on 27 August 1663 to build the first meeting house. The progress must have been slow for it appears not to have been completed until just prior to January 1670. Lieut. Samuel Smith was on the first school committee chosen in 1669. In May 1678 he requested to be released from military duty, being then nearly 80 years old. MARY #52, the daughter of Samuel and Elizabeth, who was born about 1631, died on 16 December 1668, and married JOHN GRAVES #47. Another daughter ELIZABETH #53, who was born about 1627, married Nathaniel Foote of Wethersfield, Connecticut about 1646. He was born about 1620 and died about 1655. She then married WILLIAM GULL #316.

Sources: History of Deerfield, Mass., by George Sheldon, 1896.
History of Hadley, Mass., by Sylvester Judd, 1863.

WOLCOTT ANCESTRY

HENRY WOLCOTT

HENRY WOLCOTT #82 was baptized at the parish Lidiard St. Lawrence near Tolland, England on 6 December 1578 and died in America on 30 May 1655. On 19 January 1606 in England he married ELIZABETH SAUNDERS #83, who was baptized on 20 December 1584 and died on 7 July 1655. She was the daughter of THOMAS SAUNDERS #84. In her will dated 5 July 1655 and proved 4 October 1655 she mentioned sons George, Simon, Christopher and daughters Anne and Mary Allyn.

Henry Wolcott, and it is believed accompanied by his wife, came to America on the ship Mary and John in 1630 and with them came three sons; Henry, George and Christopher. Other children were left behind in England, some of whom came later. It appears he disposed of his lands in England before coming to this country, but later acquired Galdon Manor in England upon the death of his elder brother Christopher, which he deeded to his eldest living son Henry in 1642. He was a man of some education and had a position among the gentry and a fair income.

Henry Wolcott was on the first list of freemen issued at Boston on 19 October 1630. On 3 April 1632 at Dorchester, Massachusetts, a list was drawn up of those to build a fence around a certain meadow and he was to build 60 feet of fence or 20 feet for each cow he owned. On 3 November 1633 he was one of those appointed to set the rates for building and maintaining fences. On 28 October 1634 he was one of ten appointed to manage the town affairs for a year.

He was one of the original settlers of Dorchester, Massachusetts, and in 1636-7 moved to Windsor, Connecticut, being one of the five men to originate the settlement. From 1643 for the rest of his life he was a member of the house of magistrates of the Connecticut Colony. In 1640 it appears he visited England possibly in connection with Galdon Manor. In 1640 with Thomas Marshfield and Samuel Wakeman he chartered the ships Charles and Hopewell for a voyage to New England and the ships sailed from Bristol, England 18 June 1640. They borrowed sums of money from Nathaniel Patten a passenger on the Charles, which after arrival in this country, resulted in court action as Nathaniel Patten attempted to recover. The court action on 14 October 1642 came up in Connecticut since Henry Wolcott and Thomas Marshfield were residents there. Henry Wolcott's will was signed the day of his death.

Henry Wolcott was the son of JOHN WOLCOTT #85 and his wife JOAN #86. John Wolcott's will dated 10 November 1623 mentioned his son Henry. John Wolcott was the son of JOHN WOLCOTT #87 and his wife AGNES #88 of Tolland, Somerset County, England. This John Wolcott's will dated 9 February 1571 and proved on 11 April 1572 mentioned his son John and wife Agnes.

SIMON WOLCOTT

SIMON WOLCOTT #89, youngest son of Henry and Elizabeth Wolcott was born in England between 11 September 1624 and the same date in 1625 and died 11 September 1687. On 17 October 1661 he married for his second wife MARTHA PITKIN #90, who was born in 1638 and died on 13 October 1719. She came to America in 1661. Martha Pitkin was the sister of